Ban on Pak Nationals to Visit India

3665. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a press report from Islamabad saying that the Pakistan Government has advised its citizens and nationals against travelling to India; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government have seen these press reports. Government hope that Pakistan will abandon its negative attitude and join in efforts to establish good neighbourly relations.

Unhealthy location of Passport Office

3666. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether location of Regional Passport Office of Delhi is very tedious, unhealthy and without facility of cross-ventilation particularly during the summer season;

(b) whether location of the office at second floor is inconvenient to old because of the absence of lift-facility;

(c) whether one official at the Reception Office has been provided to attend thousands of people every day;

(d) whether there is no conspicuous display of various services requirement with formalities required and fees to be charged being provided country-wise;

(e) whether Government propose to take some drastic steps to improve the working of this office; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (f) The Regional Passport Office in Delhi, which is located on the 2nd floor of Shastri Bhavan, has inadequate office space. No lift facilities are available to this office.

Government are aware of inconvenience caused to the public as well as officials working in this office due to shortage of space.

It has been decided to relocate the Passport Office in Delhi to Bhikaji Cama Place, R.K. Puram. The new premises will be equipped with necessary facilities.

Working conditions in the Regional Passport Office of Delhi

3667. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some tenure of stay has been fixed for officials either in gazetted or non-gazetted cadre working in Regional Passport Offices of the country;

(b) if so, the details of instructions issued in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that large number of officials have been working in Regional Passport Office at Delhi for more than four years;

(d) whether this overstay of officials in Delhi office has developed intimacy with touts;

(e) whether the general public at Delhi office is not being provided required level of service;

(f) whether if is a fact that only 50 to 60 members of general public are being attended at each counter during prescribed hours from 10.00 to 12.30 a.m. while the working hours are from 10.00 to 6.00 p.m.;

(g) whether Government propose to